

Particular Relation, of the Burning of *Lisburn* (a Town in Ireland,) in a most Dreadful and Extraordinary manner, by Fire from Heaven; Attested by good Vouchers, lately come from Ireland.

UPON the Lord's Day the 20th of *April* 1707, a little before 12 a Clock, while People were at Church, a Fire broke out in *Lisburn*, alias *Lisnagarvie*, a very neat well situate small Town, in the County of *Antrim* in *Ireland*, about 6 Miles above *Belfast*, which burnt with great fury along both sides of the Streets, consuming all along as it went.

People running out of the Church in great confusion, carried out what Effects they could to the Church-Yard, as a place of Safety, it being very large, and not near to any House, except the Church; but the Fire, having seized upon the Church also, descended likewise upon the Goods in the Church-Yard, and consumed them entirely.

Within less than 3 Hours the whole Town was burn'd down, together with the Castle, the place of Residence of my Lord *Connoway*, except only the Town-House, a House belonging to one *Roger*, and a Smith's House: And that which is very remarkable, is, That after the Fire had seized upon the Castle, a Coal was carried from it by the Wind, over the River, to a Village at above half a Miles distance, which also consumed the same entirely.

The Town, Castle and Village, being burn'd as aforesaid, enquiry was made in what manner the Fire broke out, but none within the Town could give any manner of Account how it began; but some People who were in the neighbouring Fields, having reported, That they saw a flame of Fire in the form of a great Sheet, descend from Heaven, and fall upon the Town, they were brought before Mr. *Justice Hornbie*, my Lord *Connoway's* Chamberlain, and upon Oath declared, That they saw the Flame descend from Heaven, in manner fore-said. And this is all the Account can be got of the burning of the Town.

That which makes this the more credited, is, The extraordinary fierceness of the Fire, which burnt with great violence, and did flee from House to House, tho at a great distance, and over-took the Goods brought into the Church-Yard for safety, where every body believed them to be secure, and even upon a May-pole which stood at a great distance from any House, which was burn'd within two Yards of the Ground.

Tho the Fire had broke out in the ordinary manner, it must be own'd to be of Divine permission, as a Judgment upon such as suffer by it; but how much more must this Flame immediately descending from Heaven be acknowledged to be a Judgment upon the Inhabitants of the Place consumed, and ought to be taken as a warning by others.

Possibly some may think the Inhabitants of this Town have been very Impious, & compare the Possessors of the 2 Houses that are sav'd, to *Lot*, who escap'd when all his Neighbours were destroy'd. But not knowing any thing of the matter of Fact, either of the Impiety of the one, nor Sanctity of the other, I shall say nothing of it.

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